deep and 10 km wide were dropped a distance of 100 meters, about 100 megatons of energy would be released. This release would be catastrophic to any coastal nation. How could it be achieved? A series of phased explosions, perhaps setting off natural earthquakes, would be a most effective way. I could even speculate on planning a guided tidal wave, where guidance is achieved by correctly shaping the source which releases the energy."

uh, kimosabe

THE AMERICAN INDIAN Movement has called on radio station KQRS in Minneapolis to ambush the Lone Ranger and his sidekick Tonto and hustle them off the air. Clyde Bellecourt, executive director of the local AIM chapter, describes Tonto as a "negative stereotype" of the American Indian. "After 30 years of riding with a white man," he says, "an Indian should be able to do more than speak a few unintelligible words."

KQRS has agreed to air a statement by Bellecourt and will leave the final decision up to its listeners.

catch as catch can

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT of Justice has confirmed that it makes a practice of asking major American corporations to hire former Justice Department informers and spies so that they can be moved to "out-of-the-way and inconspicuous places" after completing their undercover work.

Zodiac News Service quotes a Department spokesman as saying that "at least a dozen, but fewer than 100 informers" had been hired "as a public service" by numerous corporations after the informers had completed their assigned tasks.

The practice became known in May during a Canadian television interview with Pershing Gervais, the FBI informer hired last year to "entrap" New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison. After testifying about alleged payoffs to Garrison in a gambling swindle, Gervais disappeared from New Orleans, and Garrison was indicted.

It turns out that Gervais has been employed for the past three months by the General Motors Company in Vancouver, British Columbia, at an annual salary of $18,000. General Motors reports that it hired Gervais "at the request of the Justice Department" after the Department informed GM that it wanted to place the informer at "an out-of-the-way location."

The Justice Department acknowledged that the practice of asking corporations to hire ex-informers "was very common and very successful." Said the spokesman: "We've seen to it that quite a few informers have been hired, although we can't give a specific figure."

THE AMERICAN MEDICAL Association, in a related item, reports that it commonly cooperates with the FBI in attempts to track down fugitives. Dr. Hugh Hussey, chief of the AMA's Division of Scientific Publications, says that two recent AMA *Journals* issued a warning bulletin to doctors, asking them to watch out for Weatherwoman Roberta Smith. Ms. Smith is wanted by the FBI on charges relating to the smuggling of dynamite across state lines. The Bureau reports that she suffers from a "severe acne problem" and has appealed to the AMA to alert doctors who might be called upon to treat her. (Zodiac)

safer thoughts

A THOUGHT FROM CBS Newsman Morley Safer (from a talk at the Overseas Press Club): "This administration has carefully planted doubt in this country about what we [the press] print or show or say. It has not been a casual, accidental thing. . . . People who practice the big lie cannot stand the smallest truth . . . The truth? Agnew and Richard Kleindienst and Melvin Laird have done for the truth what the Boston Strangler did for the door-to-door salesman."

don't read this

THE CHANCES ARE THAT if you are reading this, you are not and could not have become a juror in the Pentagon Papers case. In early June, U.S. Attorney David Nissen filed a brief in the Los Angeles Federal District Court which sought to bar readers of *Ramparts*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, or *Esquire* from the jury which will hear testimony in the case. The brief charged that all these publications had treated the government's position "unfairly" and had glorified the roles of Daniel Ellsberg and Tony Russo, thus causing the government's position to "be loathed."

The brief further sought to exclude any person or the relative of any person who ever belonged to any anti-war organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union. As we go to press, the court has yet to reach a decision on the motion.

dita boom

THE NEW YORK TIMES reports sales of Dita Machines—that is, Dita Beard Machines, a.k.a., paper shredders—are up 25% over last year. Gross sales are approaching $10 million yearly. One manufacturing firm, it is said, has boosted sales through claims that its products can shred up to 2500 pounds of secrets an hour.

bear eats crow

"ONLY YOU," SAYS Smokey the Bear, "can prevent forest fires." But he neglects to add: "If you prevent them too long, you may wind up with a full-fledged holocaust on your hands." According to *Clear Creek*, a San Francisco-based monthly devoted to ecology and the environment, Montana and Idaho are facing a critical situation due to "over-protection" of the forests. Because of their effective fire prevention programs, there has been a dangerous accumulation of organic fuel on the floors of the national forests in these states, which could produce blazes "nearly inconceivable in magnitude." Hence the Forest Service is planning to let some fires in certain forests burn this summer.